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Lead for County Courthouse restoration
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Crown Jewel:

Downtown Riverside has 15 buildings on the National Historic Register. Mission Inn Avenue is arguably one of Southern California's great architectural treasures. The Main Library is the cultural heart of the community and needs to reflect those values and standards.

Size:

If we expanded the Main Library to meet the average it would need to be 75,000 square feet. The Main Library needs to reflect the stature of Riverside in relation to other communities in California.

John Brown, Partner Best, Best & Krieger
City Attorney to BB&K contract cities including Ontario, Lafayette
Chair of Riverside's Homeless Taskforce and many other civic activities

Every major city has a Main Library that is an important component of its reputation as a cultural center. The City of Lafayette, a city of less than 50,000 persons raised \$13 million privately to complete their new main library for which the total cost was \$42 million.

Historic Opportunity:

The renovation and expansion of the Main Library is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Main Library services have been addressed in 1901, 1961 and now in 2008. We must take this opportunity to "get it right" for this important community resource.

Getting it right means the right size, the right architecture, and the right financial resources to get the job done.

Heal the Wound:

When the Main Library was opened in 1965, people were disappointed with the building and mourned the loss of the Old Carnegie. That disappointment persists today, Riverside residents love the Main Library services but can't stand the building.

We have to make sure that the new Main Library we create now heals this wound and is something we can all be proud of.

Jim Erickson, Vice Chancellor Emeritus, University of California
President and executive director of the Community Foundation for Riverside and
San Bernardino Counties

City of the Arts

To prepare our children for participation in the global economy, they need an enlightened understanding of cultures and customs. As the City of the Arts, this community needs a comprehensive main library as the repository of our culture and to show us the way forward to the future through lifelong learning.

Riverside's heritage shows us that we achieve much when we have vision, as city founder John North demonstrated. Access to information in all its forms, as library philanthropist Andrew Carnegie showed, allows individuals to realize their highest and best future.

Susan Straight (statement read by Gail Watson, her mother) National Book Award nominee, prize--winning author, director of the Creative Writing Program at U C Riverside

All of my life I have been an avid user of the Main Library. It would be impossible for me to do my work as a writer without the resources available to me through Main Library.

Dawn Hassett, Business Person

This process is backwards. The city started with \$25 million and then asked the architect "How much can we build for that amount?" \$25 million is about 1.4% of the Renaissance budget. It is absurd to think we cannot afford 1.4% of the Renaissance budget for the main library. Riverside can afford to build a library that reflects the quality and stature of the community.

Mary Curtin, author, former member of California Council for the Humanities

Founding member of Riverside Public Library Foundation

Current member of Riverside Public Utilities Board

Changing Nature of Main Libraries:

Libraries function more and more as the intellectual and cultural center of their community and need more interactive, flexible, and program space. Small and medium sized community groups need places to meet and have cultural and intellectual programs.

Laura Klure, researcher, former member of Cultural Heritage Board
Board member of Riverside Historical Society

Changing Space Needs

Libraries have changed. Today more materials are digital and compact, but reader's spaces are larger and must accommodate computers. Digital formats however, are fugitive and their shelf-life is untested. For serious researchers and students we must also have space for microfilm and print sources, some of which are more than 100 years old.

Kathryn Safford, former president of the Riverside Municipal Museum Board. Instructor, California Baptist University
Separate the Museum and Library and Do Right by Both

The current proposal reminds me of a mother with two children, and one coat. To keep them warm she cuts the coat in two and gives one half to each child.

Carolyn Grant, former owner/operator of Tours of the Town
Initiator of the Riverside Dickens Festival

Both buildings are important to attracting visitors downtown and represent significant value on their existing sites.
Don't shortchange either one. Consider separating the two and maximizing development on their existing sites.

Judith Auth, chair of Renew the Library Committee

The proposed plan disrespects Riverside's Main Library, the most venerable educational/cultural institution in the city. It predates the Citrus Experiment Station, the colleges and universities, the school districts, and even the incorporation of the city itself.

The 69.1% of the voters who passed Library Measure C voted for more library space, more programs, more library materials.

The City Manager's office promised a 29,000 to 40,000 square foot expansion of the Main Library that would include a shared use temporary exhibit hall for traveling museum exhibits. Under this plan, less than 1/3 of the space is for the library and the rest is for the Museum. That is not the Main Library expansion we were promised.

Kay Roberson, Vice President of the Friends of the Riverside Library

The Friends contribute over \$57,000 annually to the library through the sale of used books.

THE NEW PLAN HAS THESE PROBLEMS—

- The Museum has a gift shop on the Main Floor but the Friends book sales are in the basement. Why can't the main floor retail space be shared?
- The Friends book donation processing area is away from the freight entry so that materials have to be transported through public space constantly.

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Making Bratwurst

A bratwurst is a sausage composed of pork, beef, and sometimes veal. The name is German, derived from Old High German brätwurst, from brät- which is fine chopped meat and -wurst, sausage. Though the brat in bratwurst describes the way the sausages are made, it is often misconstrued to be derived from the German verb "braten", which means to pan fry or roast. Etymology aside, frying and roasting are far from the most common methods of preparation. Bratwurst is usually grilled and sometimes cooked in broth or beer.

Process

First

The Library Staff put together a “Plan of Service” that will include who is serviced, what does the service look like, and how is it going to be delivered.

The City puts together a “General Plan” to include the Library

Second

The Library Board approves the Library "Plan of Service" and determines, based on the report, how much room is needed to accomplish this. The recommendations are then passed on to the City Council.

Third

The City Council then determines the final size, cost and location with input from the Library Board, City Manager and City Staff

Fourth

The City manages the project with input from Library Staff.

Where are we now?

Main 61,420 sqft Branches 62,456 sqft

Total of 123,876 sqft = .43 sqft per Person

How big should the Main Library be
compared to Branches?

The Main Library should be 50% of the total.

National Business Model

Other Library Systems

Housing Density

Locations

Who are the Cities with larger than 50% Main Libraries?

Pasadena
Thousand Oaks
Inglewood
Torrance
Glendale
Corona
Burbank
Fulerton

Oxnard
Pomona
Ontario
Orange
San Bernardino
Long Beach
Downey
Santa Barbara

Oceanside
Anaheim
Santa Ana
Moreno Valley
Palmdale

Or 21 of the 22 on the benchmark list
(Huntington Beach is at 48%)

Main Library serves 63,326 people now
At .7 SqFt per person a BRANCH should be 44,328 sqft

In 2012 it will serve 72,088 people
a Branch should be 50,461 sqft

In 2025 it will serve 84,320* people
a Branch should be 59,024 sqft

* error + or - 16%

How big should the Main Library be in 2025

doesn't include any #'s for possible annexations of Highgrove & or Woodcrest

Population **X** General Plan SqFt. **X** .5 (or 50%)

$$354,125 \quad \mathbf{X} \quad .7 \quad \mathbf{X} \quad .5 = 123,944 \text{ sqft}$$

Main Library should be 123,944 sqft
(if is doable on this footprint)